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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of Black et al.

Serial No. 10/039,635

Filed: January 2, 2002

Group Art Unit: 2881

Atty. Docket: YOR920010319US1

Examiner: Johnston, Phillip A.

Certificate of Transmission by Facsimile

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. 703-872-9306) on May 6, 2005.

Mohammad S. Rahman

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SCANNING PROBE MICROSCOPY TIPS COMPOSED OF NANOPARTICLES AND METHODS TO FORM SAME

Sir:

For:

This preliminary amendment is being submitted concurrently with the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in response to the Advisory Action mailed April 5, 2005 and further in response to the Office Action of January 11, 2005. Please charge Deposit Account #50-0510 for all fees related to the submission of the RCE and this preliminary amendment, including the payment of any extension fees and excess claim fees. Please amend the aboveidentified patent application as follows:

10/039,635